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Water Management  
Division  
Date: June 18, 1991

Salient Issue

Issue:

The City of Philadelphia has notified the Delaware County Regional Water Quality Control Authority (DELCORA) of the City's intent to terminate wastewater treatment service for DELCORA, effective March 15, 2004.

Construction  
Grant Project:

City of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
Numbers C-420786-01 through -08  
Grant Amount: \$219 M

Background:

DELCORA contracts with the City to have wastewater treated at Philadelphia's Southwest Plant. Approximately 50 MGD of the 200 MGD Southwest Plant capacity is reserved for DELCORA.

According to Philadelphia, DELCORA is \$5 M behind in wastewater billings. Litigation is expected.

Prior to this notice, Philadelphia explored what EPA's reaction would be if Philadelphia decided to sever its wastewater treatment service for DELCORA. We understand that similar questions were posed to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources (PaDER).

The Water Management Division advised Philadelphia informally:

- From an Enforcement view, this represents a change in the location where this wastewater would be treated some 20 years from now. It is not expected to impact any present enforcement action regarding either DELCORA or the City.



- From a Grants view, there would be an "abandonment" issue associated with DELCORA's withdrawal. A repayment, if any, would however be small, because salvage value in the year 2004 would be small.
- The Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) would be a player in any decision to transfer the wasteload allocation for the 50 MGD from Philadelphia to DELCORA. Ultimately, if DELCORA chooses to build or expand their own facilities to treat this portion of DELCORA wastewater, PaDER and DRBC would determine whether to approve the action.

## Action:

None at this time. This is a local issue which, at this time, does not require action by EPA or PaDER. The Water Management Division will continue to monitor developments in this matter.

CONCURRENCES				
SYMBOL	BWM21:FOGG:CF: WP50 DELCORA2.CF	6/18/91		
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